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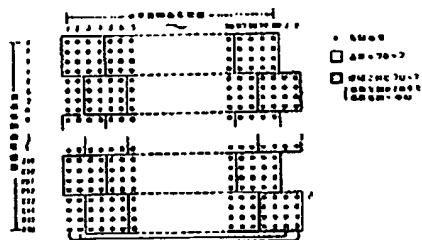
(54) PICTURE CODING METHOD

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(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To prevent the deterioration in the coding efficiency by connecting blocks at both ends of a pattern not reaching a prescribed picture element number so as to form one block.

CONSTITUTION: A block division circuit 102 applies block division to a picture of a video signal inputted from a terminal 101. The video signal divided into blocks is subjected to orthogonal conversion by an orthogonal converter 103 for each block, an orthogonal conversion output is coded by a coder 104 and a high efficient code is outputted from a terminal 105. Then the coder 104 assigns lots of bits to a sequence with a large output in the orthogonal conversion output and assigns a few bits to a sequence with a small output to save entirely bit number thereby applying highly efficient coding. Thus, blocks at both ends of the pattern deficient in the picture element number are connected to form one block thereby avoiding blocks with deficient picture element number and preventing deterioration in coding efficiency.



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